

Message Text

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43

ACTION AID-59

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P R 171101Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8781

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: SAHEL R & R - TRANSPORT TO SIXTH REGION

REF: STATE 070797 - PARAGRAPH SIX (C)

1. AADO WILL PROVIDE INPUT INTO OVERALL MISSION
RESPONSE TO REFTEL WHICH PRESENTLY BEING PREPARED.
MEANWHILE, COMMENTS ON R & R ACTIVITY IMPACT AS
FOLLOWS:

2. TIMEFRAME FOR MALI R & R ACTIVITY PAYOFF REMAINS
AS STATED IN AID/W PAAD (PAGE-I-B-4) I.E. QUOTE
ACTIVITIES WHICH CAN PRODUCE RESULTS IN 12-18-24 MONTHS
UNQUOTE. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE NATURE OF RECENT AID/W
SUPPORT TOGETHER WITH ANTICIPATED FOLLOW-THROUGH ON GOM
BUREAUCRATIC SIDE, WE FEEL ASSURED THAT CERTAIN REHABILITATION
RESULTS WILL BE DEMONSTRABLE WITHIN SIX TO SEVEN MONTHS
FROM DATE OF RECEIPT OF R&R FUNDS HERE (E.E. MARCH 15, 1974).
THIS ASSURANCE IS PREDICATED PARTLY ON FACT THAT
APPROXIMATELY 60 PERCENT OF MALI R&R GRANT FUNDS HAVE
BEEN MOVED INTO IMPLEMENTATION PHASE VIA EXECUTED
ACTIVITY AGREEMENTS.

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3. PROJECT ACTIVITY (688-390-III-I) (COMMODITY
TRANSPORT TO THE VI REGION)

(A) THIS ACTIVITY WAS NOT PART OF THE FEI TEAM R&R PACKAGE BUT WAS ADDED ON MARCH 11, 1974, TO ASSIST GOM IN TRANSPORTING COMMODITIES TO AND WITHIN THE VI REGION. EXCLUDING OPERATING FUEL COSTS AND DESOTO TRUCK-RELATED CHARGES, PRINCIPAL FINANCING OBJECTIVES ARE ESTABLISHMENT OF FIXED FUEL POINTS ON MOPTI GAO RUN AND INCREASE IN HEAVY HAULING CAPACITY.

(B) AS INDICATED IN BAMAKO 0677, GOM EXPECTS THAT MAJOR PIECES OF EQUIPMENT WILL ARRIVE BAMAKO BY END-OF-APRIL. CONSEQUENTLY, WHILE THIS EQUIPMENT WILL IMPROVE GOM HAULING EFFORT OVER MOPTI GAO ROUTE BETWEEN MID-MAY AND COMMENCEMENT OF RAINS IN AREA EARLY JULY, THE MAJOR IMPACT OF EQUIPMENT WILL BE FELT DURING SEPTEMBER 1974-JUNE 1975 PERIOD.

(C) CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FUEL POINTS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 6C REFTTEL, IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT LACK OF FIXED PETROL POINTS IS NOT RPT NOT A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO MOVEMENT OF VEHICLE CONVOYS, SINCE PETROL SUPPLY CAN BE (AND IS PRESENTLY) TRANSPORTED ALONG WITH CONVOYS. ESTABLISHMENT OF FIXED POINTS, HOWEVER, WILL MEASURABLY IMPROVE CONVOY OPERATIONS.

4. PROJECT ACTIVITY (688-310-III-G) (IMPROVEMENT OF MOPTI-DAO AND KOUTIALA-SIKASSO ROAD STRETCHES)

THIS ACTIVITY WILL ASSIST GOM IN ACCOMPLISHING DEFERRED MAINTENANCE ON SELECTED PORTIONS OF SEVARE-GAO (575 KMS) AND SIKASSO-KOUTIALA (130 KMS) ROUTES. IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT R&R INPUT IS IN SUPPORT OF GOM/DONOR PROGRAMME D'URGENCE DESIGNED AND ACTUALLY INITIATED EARLY FEBRUARY 1974 WITH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FINANCING. THUS, MAIN SHORT TERM EFFECT OF R&R FUNDING THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN TO ENCOURAGE PUBLIC WORKS TO RELEASE ITS NEGLIGIBLE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR IMMEDIATE OPERATIONAL COSTS IN VIEW ASSURANCE OF EQUIPMENT FINANCING ON PART OF AID/OTHER DONORS. SINCE EQUIPMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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BEING FURNISHED UNDER R&R FINANCING HAS TO BE PURCHASED BY GOM OUTSIDE OF MALI, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT MAJOR IMPACT WILL BE FELT DURING SEPTEMBER 1974-JUNE 1975 PERIOD.

5. IN SUM, ALTHOUGH MAJOR IMPACT OF R&R FINANCING FOR IMPROVEMENT OF SEVARE-GAO ROUTE WILL BE FELT AFTER THE 1974 RAINY SEASON, THE ROUTE IS NOW TRAVERSABLE FOR SUITABLY EQUIPPED VEHICLES.
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